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NOTICE 896 OF 1996

BOARD ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

NOTICE OF INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE ALLEGED DUMPING OF UNCOATED WOODFREE PAPER IMPORTED FROM OR ORIGINATING SWEDEN, BRAZIL, INDONESIA AND POLAND

The Board on Tariffs and Trade received a petition alleging that uncoated woodfree paper, imported from or originating in Sweden, Brazil, Indonesia and Poland, is being dumped on the South African market, causing material injury to the South African industry concerned.

Petitioner

The petition was lodged by Mondi Limited, which represents the South African industry. The petitioner alleges that it is unable to compete with the low prices of the imported products and is therefore suffering material injury. The petitioner submitted sufficient evidence to justify an investigation of the allegation.

Product

The product allegedly being dumped is uncoated woodfree paper, classifiable under tariff subheading 4802.52, imported from or originating in Sweden, Brazil, Indonesia and Poland.

Allegation of dumping

The allegation of dumping is based on a comparison between the normal value in Sweden and in the case of Brazil, Indonesia and Poland, on a constructed normal value and the f.o.b. prices for export to South Africa of like products. On this basis the estimated dumping margins are significant.

Allegation of material injury

With regard to material injury the petitioner alleges, and has submitted sufficient evidence, that the imports in question are suppressing its selling prices. It is further alleged that the prices at which these imports are sold in South Africa are significantly undercutting the already suppressed prices

of the South African producer, resulting in depressed profit margins and a decline in market share.

Procedure

Having decided that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of an investigation, the Board has begun an investigation in terms of section 4 of the Board on Tariffs and Trade Act, 1986. Interested parties may submit their views by completing the relevant questionnaire (of which copies are obtainable at the offices of the Board) and by providing supporting evidence. Parties who wish to discuss this matter should contact one of the Investigating Officers.

Time limit

Any information regarding this matter and any arguments concerning the allegation of dumping and the resulting material injury must be submitted in writing and must reach the Chairman, Board on Tariffs and Trade, Private Bag X753, Pretoria, 0001, not later than 30 days following the publication of this notice or, in the case of parties known to be interested, 30 days following the date on which the letter accompanying the above-mentioned questionnaire was received. The said letter shall be deemed to have been received seven days after the date of the letter.

If the required information and arguments are not received in a satisfactory form within the time limit specified above, the Board may make provisional or final findings on the basis of the facts available to it.

Enquiries may be directed to the Investigating Officers, Mr F. C. Dubbelman, at Telephone (012) 310-9816, and Mrs B. Bieldt, at Telephone (012) 310-9772. [BTT Ref. T5/15/2/1]